



TURLOCK IRRIGATION DISTRICT

333 EAST CANAL DRIVE
POST OFFICE BOX 949
TURLOCK, CALIFORNIA 95381
(209) 883-8300

August 12, 2005

Mr. Gary Bardini, Project Lead
Hetch-Hetchy Study Team
California Dept. of Water Resources
P.O. Box 942836
Sacramento, CA 94236-0001

Dear Mr. Bardini,

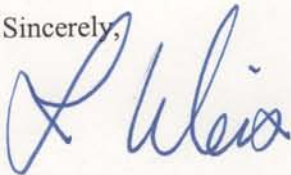
I wanted to thank you for the input you have solicited from the Turlock Irrigation District staff regarding the Hetch-Hetchy study process the state is undertaking. As the majority owner and operator of New Don Pedro, an integral part of the restoration discussion, we greatly appreciate the opportunity to comment on this issue.

There is a long and complicated history between the Turlock Irrigation District, Modesto Irrigation District and San Francisco as it relates to the building and maintaining of the Hetch-Hetchy water system and the development of water rights on the Tuolumne. We have found that attempts to summarize this complexity have led to errors in previous Hetch-Hetchy Valley restoration studies. The District believes, as I understand my staff has shared with you, that the most recent studies do not capture the delicacy of the agreements between all parties on the Tuolumne and in some ways they outright misstate them. For example, the UC Davis modeling study incorrectly assumed that San Francisco's municipal and industrial water use takes priority over the Districts' agricultural water use. The study also incorrectly assumed that San Francisco had the existing right to take water directly out of Don Pedro Reservoir.

Your team has developed a "gap analysis" as a method for the state study. While I believe this is a helpful way of collecting and recording data points it does give the impression that sections of the existing study information are "whole." The District would argue that existing studies may offer information that has not yet received an unbiased analysis for accuracy. It would be helpful, as you move forward, to point out areas within the current data "bank" that still need evaluation.

We look forward to both the final results of this study and to continued inclusion as you finish this process. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me directly at (209) 883-8211.

Sincerely,



Larry Weis
General Manager and CEO
Turlock Irrigation District

C: Allen Short, MID

